

Istanbul, 28 June 2005

FOREWORD

THE PLENARY SESSION

Opening Ceremony

The Twenty Fifth Plenary Session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation was held in Kyiv on 8-9 June 2005 upon the invitation of the Supreme Rada of Ukraine.

The Plenary Session was opened by Mr. Volodymyr Lytvyn, President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation and the Chairman of the Supreme Rada of Ukraine who also presented the welcoming address by H. E. Mr. Viktor Yuschenko President of Ukraine. The participants were addressed by the Ambassador of the Republic of Moldova in Kyiv Mihail Laur on behalf of H. E. Mr. Andrey Stratan, Chairman-in-Office of the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Moldova.

Participation

Following participants took part in the work of the General Assembly:

1. ***Chairmen*** of the Parliament of the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro and Supreme Rada of Ukraine.
2. ***National Delegations of the Parliaments of:*** the Republic of Albania, the Republic of Armenia, the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Republic of Bulgaria, Georgia, the Hellenic Republic, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, the Russian Federation, the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro, the Republic of Turkey and Ukraine.
3. ***Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation and its related bodies:***
 - ***The BSEC:*** representative of the BSEC Chairman-in-Office and the Deputy Secretary General of the BSEC Permanent International Secretariat
 - ***The Black Sea Trade and Development Bank:*** Secretary General
 - ***The International Centre for Black Sea Studies:*** Director General
4. ***Observers:*** delegations/representatives of the National Assembly of the French Republic, of the German Bundestag, of the Knesset of the State of Israel, of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, of the Parliamentary Assembly of the OSCE, of the Parliamentary Dimension of the Central European Initiative and of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Belarus Russia Union.
5. ***Guests:*** delegation of the Baltic Parliamentary Conference.

General Debate:

The General Debate was devoted to “The Enlargement of the European Union and the Black Sea region: New Models of Cooperation”.

The Heads and members of the National Delegations, as well as representatives of the Observers of National Assembly of the French Republic, German Bundestag, Knesset of the State of Israel and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Union of Belarus-Russia took part in the General Debate.

Addressing the participants Mr. Sami, President of the Parliament of Serbia and Montenegro, pointed out that PABSEC countries can and must play a very important role in building of the 21st century Europe.

The speakers in the debate stressed out that cooperation with the European Union is one of the BSEC’s priorities. The new aspects of discussion on the new models of the cooperation will give our organization another respiration. It is important that there is a good will among the BSEC member states to play an active role in the acceleration of the process of joining the integrating values of the common European home.

The participants also noted that the European Union interests should be very much in line with PABSEC countries goals. For the Black Sea region, European Union future cooperation should be focused on matters of short and long term priorities. BSEC along with PABSEC have to strengthen their efforts around the project of vital importance to put in place jointly with the European Union a well motivated and innovative strategy of our future cooperation. Such future cooperation needs to meet the challenges of the new realities in the relationship between the European Union and vast region from Southern Europe to the Caspian Sea.

The parliamentarians strongly believed that the Black Sea region will become in the future an important player of the overall European architecture. New and decisive steps have to be taken such as harmonizing the national legislations, advancing freedom, democracy and regional stability among the BSEC member states. To achieve this goal, the Black Sea region needs a new European identity and it should be a common duty of all PABSEC countries to show a high sense of responsibility to work within the new conceptual framework

The participants of the Assembly were informed on the intention of Delegation of the National Assembly of the French Republic to hold on 12 October 2005 in Paris the Seminar with participation of the PABSEC.

The Documents adopted by the Plenary Session of the General Assembly:

- a) Recommendation 81/2005 on “Economic aspects of resolving environmental problems in the BSEC Member States” *(Doc. GA25/EC24/REC81/05)*
- b) Recommendation 82/2005 on “Institution of Ombudsman in the BSEC Member States” *(Doc. GA25/LC25/REC82/05)*
- c) Recommendation 83/2004 on “Cooperation in the sphere of cultural tourism in the Black Sea Region” *(Doc. GA25/CC24/REC83/05)*
- d) Decisions on the PABSEC Rules of Procedure *(Doc.: GA25/RULES-S&M/05), (Doc.: GA25/RULES-MD/05) and (Doc.: GA25/RULES-VP/05/r)*

The Documents approved by the Plenary Session of the General Assembly:

- a) Report on “Economic aspects of resolving environmental problems in the BSEC Member States”
(Doc. GA25/EC24/REP/05)
- b) Report on “Institution of Ombudsman in the BSEC Member States”
(Doc. GA25/LC25/REP/05)
- c) Report on “Cooperation in the sphere of cultural tourism in the Black Sea Region”
(Doc. GA25/CC24/REP/05)
- d) Progress Report of the Parliamentary Assembly
(Doc. GA25/PROG/05)
- e) Minutes of the Twenty Fourth Plenary Session of the General Assembly held in Antalya on 24-25 November 2004
(Doc. GA24/MIN/05)

Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation:

The Assembly considered the main directions in the activities of the BSEC within the past period, welcomed the efforts by the Hellenic BSEC Chairmanship-in-Office carried on with the motto “Bringing together the BSEC and the EU” and underlined the importance of the Twelfth Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the BSEC Member States held in Komotini (Greece) on 23 April 2005.

The information provided by Mr. Andrey Urnov, Deputy Secretary General of the BSEC Permanent International Secretariat, by Mr. Charalambos Tsarouchas, Secretary General of the Black Sea Trade and Development Bank and Mr. Thanos Veremis, Director General of the International Centre for Black Sea studies was met with appreciation.

The Assembly took note of the following documents of the Organization of the BSEC:

- *Komotini Statement of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Member-States of the Organisation of the BSEC*
- *Joint Declaration on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings of the Ministers of Interior / Public Order*
- *Joint Declaration on Institutional Renewal and Good Governance of the Ministers in Charge of Public Administration and the Ministers of Justice*
- *Joint Declaration on the Connection of the Black Sea Transport Network with the Trans-European Transport Network within the framework of the Euro-Asian Transport Links*
- *Alexandroupolis Declaration on Energy Cooperation in the BSEC Region*
- *Rhodos Declaration of the Ministers of Tourism*

The Assembly took note of the report on the Parliamentary Conference on “Wider Black Sea region in the New European Architecture” (Doc. GA25/REP/EU-BSEC/05) held in Athens on 8 April 2005 within the framework of the BSEC Hellenic Chairmanship-in-Office and with the support of the International Center for Black Sea Studies and the PABSEC International Secretariat and welcomed *the Conclusions of the Conference*.

Financial Matters:

The Assembly approved the Report by the Draft Budget and Auditing Committee for the Financial Year 2004 (Doc. GA 25/AUDIT04/05).

The New Credentials

The Assembly ratified the credentials of the new members of the national delegations of Moldova, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro and Turkey (*Doc.: GA25/CRED/05*)

Elections:

- **Elections of the Members of the Bureau of the Assembly.** The Assembly elected Mr. Arthur Chilingarov (Russia), Mr. Mustafa Bas (Turkey) and Mr. Oleg Salmin (Ukraine) to the posts of the PABSEC Vice-President for the term of office of two years. Mr. Constantinos Agorastos (Greece) was elected to the post of the PABSEC Vice-President in charge of Financial Matters for the term of office of two years.
- **Elections of the PABSEC Secretary General.** The Assembly elected Mr. Alexey Kudriavtsev (Russia) to the post of the PABSEC Secretary General for the term of office of 3 years starting with 1 November 2005.
- **Elections of the Deputy Secretary General in charge of organisational matters and the Deputy Secretary General in charge of administrative and financial matters of the PABSEC International Secretariat.** The Assembly elected Mr. Igor Bolboceanu (Moldova) to the post of the Deputy Secretary General in charge of organisational matters for the term of office of three years starting with 1 January 2006 and Mr. Alexander Furman (Ukraine) to the post of the Deputy Secretary General in charge of administrative and financial matters for the term of office of three years starting with 1 January 2006.

Rotation of the Presidency

In conformity with the PABSEC Rules of Procedure, starting with the end of the Twenty Fifth Plenary Session in Kyiv on 9 June 2005, Mr. Servet Pellumbi, Speaker of the Parliament of the Republic of Albania assumed the powers of the President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization of the Black Sea economic Cooperation for a period of six months.

The 2005 Autumn Session of the General Assembly

The 2005 Autumn Session of the General Assembly will take place in Tirana on 23-24 November 2005.

As for the topic for the General Debate, the Assembly took note of the proposal by the Albanian PABSEC Delegation that the main item will be communicated later on.

TWENTY FIFTH MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE

The Standing Committee:

- **determined** the draft Agenda for the 2005 Autumn Session of the General Assembly based on the proposals by the Committees on the issues to be discussed in the second part of 2005:
 - a) **Economic, Commercial, Technological and Environmental Affairs:**
 - “Development of transport infrastructure in the Black Sea Region”
 - b) **Legal and Political Affairs**
 - “The role of local government in strengthening cooperation in the Black Sea region”

c) Cultural, Educational and Social Affairs:

- “Cultural, educational and social aspects of the EU enlargement: consequences for the Black Sea region”
- **approved** the following documents:
 - a) Minutes of the Twenty Fourth Meeting of the Standing Committee (*Doc.: SC24MIN/05*)
 - b) PABSEC Calendar 2005 (*Doc.: SC20/CAL/05*)
 - c) Information on the examination of new credentials (*Doc.: GA25/CRED/05*)
 - d) Draft Agenda of the Twenty Fifth Plenary Session of the PABSEC General Assembly (*Doc.: GA25/AG/05*)
- **took decision:**
 - a) to introduce changes in the PABSEC Rules of Procedure (*Doc.: GA25/RULES-S&M/05*), (*Doc.: GA25/RULES-MD/05*) and (*Doc.: GA25/RULES-VP/05*)
 - b) to organize additional meeting of the Draft Budget and Auditing Committee on the 2006 PABSEC budget in Istanbul in September 2006.
- **took note of:**
 - **the information** on the receipt of Contributions to the 2005 Budget (*Doc.: SC25/CONT/05*)
 - **reports** on participation by the PABSEC representatives in international gatherings between November 2004 – June 2005:

A – International Meetings

- a) Mrs. Natia Gaprindashvili, Secretary of the PABSEC Legal and Political Affairs Committee, in the 50th Session of the Assembly of WEU – the 4th Interparliamentary European Security and Defence Assembly, 29 November – 1 December 2004, Paris.
(*Doc. SC25/REP/AWEU/05*)
- b) Mr. Gagik Minasyan, Head of the PABSEC Armenian Delegation, Mr. Ali Alirzayev, Member of the PABSEC Azerbaijan Delegation, and Mrs. Natia Gaprindashvili, Secretary of the PABSEC Legal and Political Affairs Committee, in the first part of the PACE Session, 24-28 January 2005, Strasbourg.
(*Doc. SC25/REP/PACE-1/05*)
- c) Mr. Oleg Salmin, PABSEC Treasurer, Head of the PABSEC Ukrainian Delegation, in the 4th Winter Session of the OSCE PA, 24-25 February 2005, Vienna.
(*Doc. SC25/REP/OSCE PA/05*)
- d) Mr. Alexander Furman, PABSEC Deputy Secretary General, in the 4th Inter-parliamentary Conference on Security and Cooperation in the Mediterranean, 6-7 February 2005, Nafplion (Greece).
(*Doc. SC25/BP/CSCM/05*)
- e) Mrs. Makbule Ceco, PABSEC Vice-President, Head of the PABSEC Albanian Delegation, in the Meeting of the Chairmen of Parliamentary Committees for Foreign Affairs and European Integration from the countries of South-East European Cooperation Process, 4-25 March 2005, Bucharest.
- f) Mr. Mustafa Bas, PABSEC Vice-President, Head of the PABSEC Turkish Delegation, in the 112th IPU Assembly, 3-8 April 2005, Manila.
(*Doc. SC25/REP/IPU-112/05*)
- g) The representative PABSEC Delegation in the International Parliamentary Conference dedicated to the 60th anniversary of the victory of the anti-Hitler coalition in World War II, 15 April 2005, Saint-Petersburg.

- h) Mr. Andrian Mihei, Member of the PABSEC Romanian Delegation, in the Meeting of the Parliamentary Committee of the Parliamentary Dimension of the Central European Initiative, 5-7 May 2005, Bratislava. *(Doc. SC25/BP/CEI-PC/05)*
- i) Mr. Filippos Tsalidis, Member of the PABSEC Hellenic Delegation, in the 4th Regional Conference of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, 12-13 May 2005, Tromso (Norway). *(Doc. SC25/REP/OSCEPA-4SRC/05)*

B – BSEC Meetings

- a) Mr. Alexey Kudriavtsev, PABSEC Secretary General, in the Meeting of the BSEC Coordination Council, 13 December 2004, Athens.
- b) Mr. Theodoros Kassimis, Head of the PABSEC Hellenic Delegation, in the Meeting of the Ministers of Transport of the BSEC Member-States, 28 January 2005, Thessaloniki. *(Doc. SC25/BP/BSEC/MIN-TRANS/05)*
- c) Mr. Alexander Furman, PABSEC Deputy Secretary General, in the Workshop on institutional renewal and good governance in the BSEC Member-States, 9-10 February 2005, Athens. *(Doc. SC25/BP/ICBSS-IRGG/05)*
- d) Mr. Michael Emelyanov, Member of the PABSEC Russian Delegation, and Mr. Mykola Yankovski, Member of the PABSEC Ukrainian Delegation, in the Regional Forum “Development of Private Sector in the Black Sea Region”, 24-25 February 2005, Thessaloniki.
- e) Mr. Alexander Furman, PABSEC Deputy Secretary General, in the Meeting of the BSEC Committee of Senior Officials, Istanbul, 21-22 March 2005. *(Doc. SC25/BP/BSEC/CSO-1/05)*
- f) Mr. Alexander Furman, PABSEC Deputy Secretary General, in the Fifth Meeting of the Steering Committee of the BSEC Project Development Fund, 23-24 March 2005, Istanbul. *(Doc. SC25/BP/BSEC/5PDF/05)*
- g) Mr. Yan Husarik, Chairman of the PABSEC Cultural, Educational and Social Affairs Committee, and Ms. Sanya Konstantakopoulou, Secretary of the Committee, in the Meeting of the Ministers of Tourism of the BSEC Member-States, 31 March 2005, Rhodes (Greece). *(Doc. SC25/BP/BSEC-MT/05)*
- h) Members of the PABSEC National Delegations in the Parliamentary Conference on “The Wider Black Sea Region in the New European Architecture”, 8 April 2005, 2005, Athens. *(Doc. GA25/REP/PARL-CONF/05)*
- i) Mr. Alexey Kudriavtsev, PABSEC Secretary General, in the Extraordinary Meeting of the BSEC Committee of Senior Officials, 11 April 2005, Brussels. *(Doc. SC25/REP/BSEC/CSO-EXT/05)*
- j) Mr. Nicolae Bondarciuc, PABSEC Vice-President, and Mr. Igor Bolboceanu, PABSEC Deputy Secretary General in the 12th Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the BSEC Member-States, 23 April 2005, Komotini (Greece).
- k) Staff of the International Secretariat in the BSEC Working Groups and other meetings:
 - ♦ Mr. Anar Rahimov, Secretary of the PABSEC Economic, Commercial, Technological and Environmental Affairs Committee, in the BSEC WG on SMEs, 12-13 January 2005, Istanbul *(Doc. SC25/BP/BSEC-WG-SME/05)* and in the WG on Cooperation in Science and Technology, 9-10 March 2005, Istanbul. *(Doc. SC25/BP/BSEC-WG-S&T/05)*
 - ♦ Mr. Alexey Kudriavtsev, PABSEC Secretary General, in the Meeting “Question Time with the Economist”, organised by the BSEC PERMIS, 19 March 2005, Istanbul.

C- Other Gatherings

- a) Mr. Igor Bolboceanu, Deputy Secretary General, in the Third Black Sea Youth Congress, 18 February 2005, Istanbul.

D – Monitoring of Elections

- a) Mr. Mikheil Machavariani, Head of the PABSEC Georgian Delegation, in the monitoring of the presidential elections in Ukraine, 26 December 2004.

THIRTY SECOND MEETING OF THE BUREAU OF THE ASSEMBLY

a) The Bureau approved:

- The Minutes of the Thirty First Meeting of the Bureau held in Antalya on 23 November 2005
(Doc.:BA31/MIN/05)
- Draft Order of Business of the 25th PABSEC General Assembly (Doc.: GA25/OB/05)
- Report by the Treasurer on the execution of the Assembly's budget (Doc.:BA32/EXE/05)
- Matters of Procedure of the Twenty Fifth Plenary Session of the PABSEC General Assembly
(Doc.:BA32/MP/05)
- Participation by the PABSEC representatives in international gatherings between June - November 2005.
(Doc.:BA32/GATH/05)

The PABSEC President was authorized to appoint the PABSEC representatives to participate in the international gatherings taking place in the above mentioned period. The decision on the participation by the members of the International secretariat will be taken by the Secretary General.

- Draft Agenda of the Twenty Fifth Meeting of the Standing Committee (Doc.:SC25/AG/05)
- Candidacy of Mr. Mustafa Bas to the post of the PABSEC Vice-President;
- Candidacy of Mr. Alexey Kudriavtsev (Russia) to the post of the PABSEC Secretary General;
- Candidacy of Mr. Igor Bolboceanu (Moldova) to the post of the Deputy Secretary General in charge of organizational matters and candidacy of Mr. Alexander Furman to the post of the Deputy Secretary General in charge of administrative and financial matters.

b) The Bureau took decision:

- to hold its Thirty Third Meeting in Tirana on 22 November 2005;
- to have additional gathering prior to the plenary sitting in order to consider the candidacies to the vacant posts of the PABSEC Vice-President.

THE ADDITIONAL MEETING OF THE BUREAU:

- a) **approved** the candidacies of Mr. Arthur Chilingarov (Russia) and Mr. Oleg Salmin (Ukraine) to the posts of the PABSEC Vice-President and the candidacy of Mr. Constantinos Agorastos (Greece) to the post of the PABSEC Vice-President in charge of Financial Matters – in conformity with the decision of the Standing Committee);
- b) **unfroze** the post of the Researcher Archivist in the PABSEC International secretariat;
- c) **appointed** Ms. Cosmina Moldovan (Romania) to the post of the Researcher-Archivist in the International Secretariat for the term of office of three years starting with 1 September 2005.

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